

graves are the footprints of angels." These words capture what we know about Joshua—he was both an angel and delight to those around him. His death brings comfort to no one, but his life spread comfort to many. His friends and family have recounted that he worked for the betterment of his community and displayed kindness to all. From the time he was just a boy, Joshua wanted to serve in the military; a child who initiated saluting when he was just 9 years old. With hard work and dedication, he earned the rank of Eagle Scout in 2005. This is an impressive accomplishment that reflects a strong, dedicated character that Joshua applied to his life and military service. I also understand that his death steals from us a potential political leader—someone who loved history, particularly the civil war, and who demonstrated leadership on issues small and large.

Joshua died serving his country in the uniform of the Illinois National Guard. Therefore I send my condolences to the friends and family of Sergeant Harris during their time of grief, and I pay tribute to a true hero whose courage and sacrifice will always be honored and cherished in this country. We are grateful for all that he did for so many in Chicago, the United States, and the world.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. RIC KELLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 24, 2008

Mr. KELLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 2638—The Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009:

Requesting Member: The Honorable RIC KELLER.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638—The Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009.

Account: Army National Guard Operations and Maintenance, Operating Forces, Budget Activity #1 to acquire and field the Weapon Skills Trainer (WST).

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Cubic Defense Applications.

Address of Requesting Entity: 2001 W. Oak Ridge Road, Orlando, FL 32809.

Description of Request: Provide \$3,000,000 to the Florida National Guard to purchase new WSTs in order to train and prepare Florida National Guard service men and women to be combat ready upon deployment.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638—The Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009.

Account: Army/Army National Guard, Other Procurement, Line #169, Training Devices, Nonsystem, for the Mobile Virtual Training Capability (MVTC) for the Army National Guard.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Coalescent Technologies.

Address of Requesting Entity: 731 North Garland Avenue, Orlando, FL 32801.

Description of Request: Provide \$2,500,000 to the Florida National Guard to purchase new MVTC programs, which provide required training and a highly realistic training environment,

with photo-realistic models, real-world maps, and accurately simulated weapons systems.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638—The Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009.

Account: Air Force, Other Procurement (Air Force), Budget Line #308F, Procurement Line #9, PE #41214F, for the Halvorsen 25K Loader.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: FMC Technologies.

Address of Requesting Entity: 7300 Presidents Drive, MD11, Orlando, FL 32801.

Description of Request: Provide \$1,600,000 that will be used by the United States Air Force (USAF) to purchase new Halvorsen Loaders, which have been requested by the President and authorized by the Armed Services Committee. The Halvorsen Loader Program provides the USAF with critical support for aerial posts worldwide and specifically, operations in theater.

CREDIT CARDHOLDERS' BILL OF RIGHTS ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2008

Ms. LEE. Madam Speaker. I rise in strong support of H.R. 5244, the Credit Card Holder Bill of Rights.

I want to applaud Congresswoman MALONEY for introducing this timely and commonsense legislation that will help our constituents and will protect hard working families. It is critical that during this time of financial crisis in America, that we do more to help households who are increasingly burdened by rising gas prices, falling home values and rising credit card interest rates and fees.

As we discuss a massive \$700 billion bailout of lenders and banks, I believe that taking this small step to protect credit card consumers is the least that we can do.

This bill seeks to protect consumers by putting very reasonable and fair limits on some of the most unfair practices of the credit card industry. It will require a fair notice to consumers before an interest rate can be arbitrarily raised. It doesn't stop them from raising their rates, it just requires that consumers be notified in advance.

It will stop the unfair practice of billing customers for interest and fees on balances that they have already paid. It will require that payments be split fairly between higher rate balances and any lower rate balances so that families have some chance to reduce their debt's principal instead of companies reducing only the debts that carry the lowest interest rates first.

Frankly, I wish that this bill were even stronger and that we were talking about requiring just the opposite. We should be requiring that all payments are applied to the highest interest rate balances first, but this is a strong step in the right direction.

I urge my colleagues to support protecting minors from predatory credit card companies, I urge my colleagues to limit so called sub prime credit cards with huge annual fees tacked automatically onto the debt on the cards, I urge my colleagues to vote yes on H.R. 5244.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 24, 2008

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, I submit the following:

Name of Project: Replacement of C-130 Aircraft Maintenance Shops.

Requesting Member: Congressman MICHAEL N. CASTLE.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Delaware Air National Guard.

Address of Requesting Entity: 2600 Spruance Dr., Corporate Commons, New Castle, DE.

Account: ANG.

Project Description: \$11.6 million for Replacement of C-130 Aircraft Maintenance Shops. The project is part of a multi-phased construction program to replace an aged hangar and shops, which support the 166th Airlift Wing's flying mission for its 8 C-130 aircraft. An improved aircraft maintenance facility will ensure a ready force that can meet both State and Federal requirements. Over 100 personnel will work and train in this facility. Funding for this project may be adjusted when the House considers the final spending package.

Name of Project: Reactive Plastic CO₂ Absorbent Production Capacity.

Requesting Member: Congressman MICHAEL N. CASTLE.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Micropore, Inc.

Address of Requesting Entity: 350F Pencader Drive, Newark, DE.

Account: DPA.

Project Description: \$1.6 million for Reactive Plastic CO₂ Absorbent Production Capacity. The Department of Defense is working with Micropore to establish a domestic production capability for reactive plastic CO₂ absorbent to ensure sufficient quantities are available to meet a wide range of military and national security needs and to bring the per unit cost down. Micropore produces an absorbent cartridge used by the Department of Defense in rebreathing and life support systems for military SCUBA, on submarines, in medical oxygen delivery, and for chemical and biological weapons protection. Funding for this project may be adjusted when the House considers the final spending package.

Name of Project: 2nd Generation Extended Cold Weather Clothing System.

Requesting Member: Congressman MICHAEL N. CASTLE.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: WL Gore & Associates.

Address of Requesting Entity: 551 Paper Mill Rd., Newark, DE.

Account: OM, ARNG.

Project Description: \$3.2 million for 2nd Generation Extended Cold Weather Clothing System. The President's FY 09 Budget requested funding for the U.S. Army National Guard to purchase the Second Generation Extended Cold Weather Clothing System from W.L. Gore. This is a set of GORE-TEX® outerwear (parka, liner and trousers) designed specifically to provide protection during cold and/